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Proposed Claim Amendments

1. (Currently Amended) A web-based method of providing professional services, the method comprising the following performed by a web-based data processing system:

accepting entry of information associated with a matter of a person, wherein the information is entered via a web-based client device in communication with the web-based data processing system;

assigning the person to one of a plurality of pools of people based on the one or more attributes of the person from the entered information and based on one or more attributes of a professional service provider qualified to advise people in the assigned pool;

allowing a professional services provider qualified to advise people in the assigned pool to view the entered information; and

providing a secure area within which the professional services provider provides information about the matter, wherein the secure area is accessible by the person via the web-based client device;

notifying the person that the professional services provider has provided information about the matter within the secure area; and

allowing the person to access the secure area, view the information provided by the professional services provider, and communicate iteratively with the service provider via the secure area.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the information is entered by the person via one or more templates that are specifically designed to invoke answers to questions related to the matter in a predetermined, structured format.

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5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the following performed prior to accepting entry of information associated with a matter of a person:

identifying the person; and

verifying that the person is eligible to receive professional services.

6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the professional services provider is selected from the group consisting of healthcare service providers, legal service providers, technical service providers, and financial services providers.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A web-based method of providing healthcare services to patients, the method comprising the following performed by a web-based data processing system:

accepting entry of information about a medical condition of a patient, wherein the information is entered via a web-based client device in communication with the web-based data processing system;

assigning the patient to one of a plurality of pools of patients based on the one or more attributes of the patient from the entered patient information and based on one or more attributes of a healthcare provider qualified to advise patients in the assigned pool;

allowing a healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in the assigned pool to view the patient information; and

providing a secure area within which the healthcare provider provides a diagnosis and/or treatment recommendation for the medical condition of the patient, wherein the secure area is accessible by the patient via the web-based client device;

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notifying the patient that the healthcare provider has provided a diagnosis and/or treatment recommendation for the medical condition of the patient within the secure area; and

allowing the patient to access the secure area, view the diagnosis and/or treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider, and communicate iteratively with the healthcare provider via the secure area.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the information is entered by the patient via one or more templates that are specifically designed to invoke answers to questions related to the medical condition in a predetermined, structured format.

12. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein a treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider includes a medication prescription, and further comprising communicating the medication prescription to a pharmacy for fulfillment.

13. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein a treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider includes a request to perform laboratory services on the patient, and further comprising communicating the request for laboratory services to a provider of laboratory services for fulfillment.

14. (Original) The method according to Claim 13, further comprising communicating results of the laboratory services to the patient.

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15. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, further comprising the following performed prior to accepting entry of information about a medical condition of a patient:

identifying the patient; and

verifying that the patient is eligible to receive healthcare services.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 9, wherein allowing the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis and/or treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider comprises allowing the patient to select a specific medication prescription for treating the patient.

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